

January 3, 1880 Burr Oaks dry goods store. Tommy DuBois, clerk.

Report says that Franklin Oliver, the old white haired patriarch of Oliver Grove, well known in this city, was robbed on Saturday night of \$600 by robbers, who entered the house, and bound him hand and foot. The robbers choked their victim, and used him otherwise very roughly. It is said that \$100 dollars concealed in an old pair of pants, escaped the thieves. Since the above was in type, we learn that Mr. Oliver identified the robbers, and that one of them was a near relative of his own.

January 10, 1880 Pistol practice is all well enough when indulged in at the proper time and place, but the Sabbath Day is not suitable time, nor the Arcade Block the proper place for such exercise. Nervous and religious people might object.

January 17, 1880 The lady friends of Mrs. N.E. DuBois gave her a surprise carpet ball benefit Wednesday afternoon. A fine repast was part of the afternoon enjoyment.

Mr. DuBois purchased a very pretty Western Cottage organ for use in the Opera House. The case is of walnut and highly polished. The organ has eleven stops and a sweet as well as a powerful tone.

Workmen getting out stone at Beach's stone quarry south of town have struck a vein of coal a foot thick about a foot below the surface. Its extent if not known, but the vein is too shallow to amount to anything for use even if the coal was of the best quality, which it is not. It is believed, however, that coal of good quantity and quality may be found at no very great depth in that locality.

Toledo, Peoria, and Western to be sold under mortgage next Tuesday. To go to Wabash.

A well known young man of this city sought the company of a pretty lady of recent importation and attended her a time or two to church. One evening he also asked the pleasure of her company to a place of entertainment, and she answered, "No, sir, this has gone far enough, and I shall have no more to do with you." Thus "mittened", not to say scorned, the young man entertained feelings of revenges, and his opportunity came last Sunday morning at the close of church. The rain was pouring down in torrents, the wind blew almost a gale, and the street crossings were flooded with water. The young man was passing along the street near a crossing, when he came up with the lady who had jilted him, accompanied by another lady. The lady of the first part requested the young man carry the umbrella across the street so that she might the better keep her skirts out of mud. The request was very promptly complied with. The young man grasped the umbrella, gently shut it up and carried it across the street, then very gracefully returned it to the lady and walked away. The lady received a drenching, and thought the young man guilty of the most contemptible trick she ever saw.

Professor Allison lectured on "Yosemite Valley and the Wonders of California" at the Opera House.

January 24, 1880 Pate de Foie Cras, the wonderful dandruff eradicator, manufactured and sold by Chris Keck, the barber, is meeting an unprecedented sale. It is a certain cure in every case, and all who are troubled with this very disagreeable scalp disease should take this opportunity to cure it.

Dr. Bartlett bought the Sherman farm of 80 acres in Indian Grove and 80 of Widow Baker in Avoca. For the first he paid \$28 and the latter \$25 per acre, cash down.

The Florence Herbert Dramatic Company to give a season of entertainment at the Opera House: "Fanchon", "Josh Whitcomb", "The Sea of Ice", "Two Orphans", and "Miss Moulton."

Ben Walton's letter about tramps.

January 31, 1880 Reverend Hempstead. Mrs. Hempstead a school teacher on the north side.

February 7, 1880 Chicago & Paducah Railroad leased by Wabash.
Dr. Rayburn advertisement. Nitrous oxide gas – painless extraction. (latest)

February 14, 1880 George Franzen is not married.

Mr. Elijah Filley of Beatrice, Nebraska, was in our city this week visiting relatives and friends. Mr. Filley went to Nebraska a few years ago with no wealth to speak of, but by close application to business has amassed a fortune, and is one of the wealthy farmers and stock dealers of the live, growing state of Nebraska.

February 21, 1880 Telephone to be put in from Walton's mill to the depot.

Walton Bros. purchased a hearse for their undertaking business. It is of tasteful pattern and finish.

February 28, 1880

Sir Knights

Annual Ball and Banquet

A grand and brilliant affair.

Account took a column and a half – one column for the costumes. Mrs. J.E. Lewis wore black silk trimmed with velvet, point lace and diamonds.

Mrs. L.B. Dominy wore black grosgrain silk with velvet trimmings, thread lace and gold ornaments.

March 6, 1880 Name of Central House changed to Commercial House.

Professor Vaughan's juvenile dancing class at Pontiac is to hold a reception at Lord's Opera House. A dress party to be event of season.

March 13, 1880 Georgia minstrels at Opera House.

March 20, 1880 Commercial House painted inside.

Telephone Party

Last Saturday evening a party of about 25 persons gathered at the residence of Mr. A.W. Streeper to hear his telephone work, which extends from his house to the shop. At the house a violin was played, each note of which was distinctly heard at the shop, two or three squares away. At the shop Mr. Powley and Mr. Jones played the cornet, and the music was enjoyed by the party at the residence. After this telephonic musical entertainment, a social dance was indulged in by the party, at the house. They had a pleasant time.

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Burr Oaks: Three hundred inhabitants in Burr Oaks now. Two years ago there were less than two dozen. The place was renamed for Hiram Sibley of Rochester, New York, proprietor of the big farm.

March 27, 1880 About 100 feet of hitching poles were put up this week on the west side of Ramsey and Franzen Drug Store.

On April 1st the Burr Oaks Index will change its name to the Sibley Index, the name of the Post Office and station having already been changed to Sibley.

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Calico Swarry

A calico "Swarry Dansanty" at the Opera House. Costumes – calico. "Calico Elysium." Descriptions of costumes. George Franzen was there and "on his arm a bewitching Queen of Beauty attired in the dainty white dress of a peasant maiden of Lyonnese."

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April 3, 1880 The N.E. Sociable at the residence of Judge McDowell Tuesday evening was attended by a large number of persons. The elegant parlors were crowded.

The new management of the Chicago and Paducah road has started in with a view to put the road bed in good condition. Numerous ties have passed northward thru this city. We learn that a large force of men has been employed this week, at good wages, to work on the road. Wages are \$1.25 per day.

April 10, 1880 Hi Henry Minstrels.

Miss Ella Beach returned from Jacksonville this week.

April 17, 1880 Dr. Bartlett bought another farm south of town this last week.

Wallpaper, books, stationery at Franzen's Drug Store.

April 24, 1880 Burton and Mortimer's Theatrical Company

The roof of Beach and Dominy's Bank was painted this week.

Thomas Beach and family visited at Chicago this week.

J.E. Lewis and wife were in Chicago this week.

May 1, 1880 Corn 28 cents; oats 28 cents; hogs \$4 per hundred

Mortimer-Burton Theatrical Company in "Peril."

Thomas Beach has been improving and beautifying his residence and grounds the past week or two. A very neat plaza has been built on the south front of the house which greatly improves the appearance of the building. In the lawn, on either side of his approach to the house, very large and exquisitely shaped urns are placed, in which rare flowers and vines will be planted. A little farther on a pair of lions, "Mary and her little lamb" rest gracefully on either side of the steps. These additions greatly enhance the beauty of the premises and reflect credit on the taste of Mr. and Mrs. Beach.

Welsh and Sands great New Orleans and San Francisco Railroad Circus and Royal English Menagerie. (Third of column – mostly adjectives)

May 8, 1880 A den of rotten prostitutes which for some time has existed in the old Donohue building, in the west end of town, was treated to a couple of wagon loads of rock on Wednesday night. The inmates left for Chatsworth on Thursday.

A new plate glass was placed in his window of Beach and Dominy's bank this week, supplying the place of one which was broken some time since. The glass coast about ten dollars and was purchased in New York. The interior of the bank was subjected to a course of "housecleaning," also, and now everything is as bright and shining as a new silver dollar.

Picnic fishing parties. Take your dinner with you.

May 15, 1880 Abe Filley came home Tuesday night, after an absence of some months. He is engaged in the cattle trade in Nebraska, with headquarters at Beatrice. Mr. Filley reports a good rain in that state just before he left. They were sadly in need of rain, but now are OK.

A boy, Harry Jones, drowned in Vermillion. Meeting at Opera House. Hundreds went out to search.

Sudden Death

Mr. Abe Filley, who returned from Beatrice, Nebraska, the early part of this week to visit his family, received a telegram yesterday announcing the death of his father, Ammi Filley, who resided with his son, Elijah, at Beatrice. The telegram gave no particulars further other than that the deceased had been hurt by a team and had died three hours after. The deceased formerly lived in or near this city. He was 72 years of age and enjoyed perfect health. Mr. Filley started West yesterday afternoon to attend the funeral.

Decoration Day to be the 30th.

May 22, 1880 Al Remington and Thomas Beach have been wrestling with the intricacies of law, as jurymen, at Pontiac this week.

There is a handsome new iron fence around Dr. Bartlett's house.

May 29, 1880 Best ice cream every day at the Railroad Restaurant.

Toys, velocipedes, wagons at the Post Office store. Also croquet sets.

(Editors take cracks at each other – elections, etc.)

June 5, 1880 Beach and Dominy repaired their old step in front of the bank this week with a new one.

South side school set on fire by a load of hay, incendiaries.

Decoration Day

Laurence, Lutyn & Company circus in town.

George Franzen secretary of Firemen. Regular practice postponed.

Shetland shawls at W.H. Taylors. Lace mitts.

June 12, 1880 The mud hole near the New Drug Store was disposed of this week by filling the street with broken stone at that point. Good improvement.

James McDowell obituary. (half column)

The sun shone so hot Thursday and Friday it melted the grease out of the knots in the sidewalks. Shade was at a premium.

Miss Ella Beach returned Wednesday from an extended visit in Ohio.

Donnavin's Tennesseans, a popular concert at the Opera House.

Emma Bartlett graduated from Morgan Park Seminary with highest honors. Her essay was "Let There Be Light." (Two years at Wesleyan)

June 19, 1880 (At Bloomington on the Fourth) Three balloons will ascend at once and the same time in a race through the air, affording a grand spectacle never before seen in Central Illinois. The management has perfected arrangements for the reception and comfort of a large crowd.

Fresh candy, maple sugar, nuts, oranges, lemons at the Post Office.

Alice Sturges, the well known and popular dramatic recitations, at DuBois's Opera House.
Admission 25 cents.

John Virgin on reception committee of Illinois Wesleyan Jubilee Commencement Exercises.

Tom Smith Trial.

Tom Smith (younger), James Tray, Philip Maguire, young men about 20 years old and drunk, were on their way home. At John Steidinger's the dog ran out and barked at them. It enraged them so that they assaulted the house. Mr. Steidinger and one of the boys were struck with a piece of lath. The rioters then entered the house, using the most profane and obscene language. One got into bed with his boots on. The racket continued for more than an hour. The family, who are inoffensive Germans and who are almost entirely ignorant of English, were badly frightened. They called the neighbors for help and sent for Constable Gregg. The trial was in Fairbury. Each one was fined \$400 and is to appear at the next term of the Circuit Court. Tom Smith was the only one who could give bond. The other two were taken to Pontiac.

First of Flowery funeral notices – James McDowell.

Bedspring factory in Arcade Block.

June 26, 1880. Ads:

Hartley Bros. Restaurant at Toledo, Peoria and Western Railroad.

A. Dahler, blacksmith.

James Gibb, Manager East Shaft.

C. Irion's Jewelry Store near Post Office

Dean Bros. Lumber Yard near Toledo, Peoria & Western Depot

Powley's Tin Shop. Manufacture tin, sheet iron & copperware. Two doors West of Walton's mills.

Dr. Dan Brewer over Beach & Company's grocery store.

Sam Barnes, M.C., over Zimmerman's Drug Store.

Romeo T. Perry, Attorney, second floor DeWolf Bldg.

O.J. Dimmick, Justice of Peace, Agricultural Warehouse, corner 2nd & Main.

J.R. Rayburn, Dentist, over restaurant one door west of Zimmerman's Drug Store.

(The woman who had all her teeth pulled in one sitting. Editor commented on her bravery.)

Smith Olney, Notary Public, real estate. Straight Bldg. Residence corner 6th & Elm. Keesey and

Briney, bedspring manufacturers, Arcade Block.

Lydia Duell, a Mount Carrol graduate, to teach music, vocal and instruments.

July 3, 1880 Fairbury Shoe Store opposite Toledo, Peoria & Western depot.

George Franzen went to Chicago this week to purchase new instruments for the new band.

L.B. Dominy has purchased of Henry Kingman a fine family carriage which will arrive soon.

The fare on the Chicago and Paducah road is now 3 cents per mile. This makes the fare to Pontiac 35 cents.

The steps leading to the barber shop under Beach and Dominy's Bank has been removed to the east side of the building in order to give more light to the basement.

David Murdock prosecuting attorney in law trial.

Mr. Geo. Lewis and Miss Annie Lewis of Berlin, Ohio, the former a brother, the latter a niece, of Mr. J.E. Lewis of this city, are visiting Mr. Lewis this week.

A new hitch rack has been placed in front of Perlee's.

A select dancing party of 30 couples at Opera House.

July 10, 1880 Mrs. Dr. Wm. Beach and daughter of New London, Ohio, who have been visiting relations in this city the past two weeks, will return home Monday evening.

The gate to Dr. Bartlett's new iron fence arrived this week and was placed in position.

David L. Murdock, candidate for State's Attorney.

Corn Scibird died. Born Bloomington; died aged 21.

Chris Keck Barber Shop under Beach's Bank.

A neat, new fence around the North and East sides of the Baptist church.

John Scibird's card of thanks.

July 17, 1880 Taylor and Weaver over First National Bank

Henry Kingman, Supervisor.

Blackberries 10 cents quart.

Chinch bugs active.

Dominy twins birthday party.

July 24, 1880 Ren Dominy built a new buggy shed this week to accommodate that imported phaeton.

Thomas Beach is building an addition to his house on the old farm south of town. The old part of the building has been raised and a stone wall built under it, and also for the new addition. Funkhouser and Russel do the carpenter work and T.D. George the stone work. When completed the house will be one of the best in that part of the country.

VonToble's sash factory.

The school board has rented McDowell's Hall, which will be refitted and used this winter for school purposes, pending the erection of a new school house. It is believed as many scholars can be accommodated in the hall after it is prepared, as were in attendance at the old south side school house and it is the best arrangement that could be made.

The new school house plans have been drawn up, and work on the new building is to start at once.

Miss Hattie Scibird has gone to Bloomington for a couple of weeks.

Lydia Duell was a sister of Frank.

July 31, 1880 Sells Bros. Circus, August 7. (Half page and with woodcuts.)

Frescoing walls of M. E. Church before conference.

Surprise party at Ida Kingman's.

August 7, 1880 Henry Kingman was sporting a new buggy and a new set of harness yesterday. They are knobby.

School board contracted for school furniture for McDowell Hall.

Reception for Dr. S.M. Barnes and bride. "After the company was all in, Miss Ella Beach favored them with several excellent selections on the piano."

Katz's under Odd Fellows Hall.

August 21, 1880 McDowell Hall is being fitted for school purposes, a new roof has been put on, the plastering has been repaired, and new partitions will be built, dividing the house into apartments suitable for the business. The rooms will be quite comfortable when furnished.

If the city smelling committee, board of health, or police constable will pass along the west end of Arcade Block, they will find filthy odor lying around in chunks, large enough to kill off a whole neighborhood. It should be suppressed.

Good article agitating better care of the cemetery.

September 4, 1880 Mrs. T.A. Beach was the recipient of a handsome phaeton this week, a birthday present from her husband.

Herbert's Dramatic Constellation with Frank Cotton and J.W. Burton, star comedians, will play every evening during the Fair at the Opera House.

September 18, 1880 New sidewalks built on the east side of McDowell Block.

Walton Bros. and Westervelt and Co. and other businessmen had a windmill erected in Livingston Square this week by J.H. Howarth, agent. The mill is put there for the furnishing of water from a well for the benefit of farmers who come to town with teams. The mill is one of the best, and its labors will be appreciated by those for whose benefit it was created.

Misses Wade and Snyder, Fashionable Cloak and Dressmakers at Mrs. Zane's Millinery Store five doors east of Walton's store.

September 25, 1880 Miss Ella Beach starts next Tuesday night to finish her musical course at the Academy of Music under the tuition of Professor Thomas, in charge.

October 2, 1880 The Torchlight Procession will move about 7 o'clock. Let every Republican shoulder a torch.

October 7, 1880 The walls of the new school are up to the top of the first story.

Thursday evening the elegant home of Mr. T.A. Beach was thrown open for the reception of a party of young people to welcome the advent into our midst of the fair young bride of his nephew, Mr. C.L. Perlee. The guests assembled early, and after extending hearty felicitations to the happy couple, they amused themselves with music. The band boys serenaded the party and went off in a cloud of smoke issuing from the fine cigars thrown out to them by the delighted and generous bridegroom.

Beach Building.

BIG BLAZE!

FANNED BY A FRIGHTFUL WIND,

Consumes Twelve Business Houses.
The Burnt District

It started at six o'clock in the morning in the South East bedroom in the third story of the Commercial House. In less than two hours every building in the block except Ramsey and Franzen's Drug Store, a brick building, was in ashes. The Blade Building escaped, and Virgin's Stables and house were saved. The shops on the South side of Locust Street were severely scorched. The Duell corn cribs took fire and 4500 bushels were destroyed.

Ramsey and Franzen, loss of \$125 in moving.

Baker and Potter, \$500 loss.

S.D. Duell Livery Stables \$400; fee, \$200. No insurance.

Frank Franzen Hotel, \$1,200.

Wm. Umberfield, Commercial House, \$500.
Wade's Livery Stable, owned by Remington, \$300. No insurance.
J.O. Smith, barber shop, \$123. No insurance.
O.P. Ross Bldg., \$300. No insurance.
J.W. Compton, of Ross Bldg. with boarders, \$50. No insurance.
J. Jamison Saloon, \$1,200. Insured.
W.G. McDowell, double building, \$500. No insurance.
Schoonover Bldg. occupied by Leppengood shoe shop and residence, \$250. No insurance.
Mrs. Kelly occupant of corner with millinery store, \$100. No insurance.
Wm Seders Bldg. occupied by Remington, \$800.

October 30, 1880 Smoke The Belle of Fairbury, sold at Zimmerman's.

First Lydia Pinkham ad.

November 6, 1880 In the indignation felt over the outrage to the members of the late M.E. Conference who were knocked down upon our streets, the solemn fact was overlooked that two others were badly "mashed."

Nixon's Uncle Tom's Cabin Troupe. Opera House.

November 13, 1880 Rip Van Winkle Troupe

Donohoe Bldg. west of National Bank.

Professor Allison lecture at the Opera House, "Geneva and the Alps." Splendid. Next lecture, "The Great Battle of Gettysburg."

Brown, the Mind Reader, coming.

Cicero Bartlett, Wife, Mrs. J.E. Lewis and Nell in runaway. Dr. knocked senseless, Eda's nose broken.

Mrs. L.B. Dominy visiting sister, Mrs. Enoch Marsh, at Wellington, Kansas.

Lost: A hair switch. Reward.

November 20, 1880 Ad: Remington's Opera House Store.

Odell Bros. have invented a new and improved check rower.

Grand Ball to be given for the benefit of the Cornet Band.

Thomas Beach and W.N. Combes returned Tuesday from a trip to Nebraska. Mr. Combs purchased some land and Mr. Beach cast his eyes over land purchased some time ago.

November 27, 1880 The Ladies Auxiliary Society will meet at Mrs. T.A. Beach's, Thursday, December 2nd.

Beach and George are building a lime kiln at their stone quarry. It is said the stone there will make the best of lime, and they propose to give it a trial.

The young folks of both sexes have been enjoying the skating season which opened last week. The ice at the dam in the grove near the slaughter house is the scene of sport.

In quarrying stone at Beach and George's quarry at the depth of about 10 feet a vein of coal about 10 or 12 inches in thickness was found last week. The coal burns well and seems to point to a still better quality at a greater depth. The vein dips west to south. Messers. Beach and George may make investigations with a view to finding the second vein of coal sometime soon. There is little doubt that coal at no great depth may be found in paying quantities. Judge McDowell's house burns. Less than \$1—worth saves. \$4,000 loss.

Dr. Brewer advertises to be paid by everyone who owes him. (Ran for 3 issues.)

December 7, 1880 Claire Scott in "Lucretia Borgia" and Camille" at Opera House.

Mrs. Dr. Brewer in Fort Wayne, Indiana, preparing to take the lead in a comic opera, "The Widow Glass," to be presented three successive nights.

All the M.E. Church records burned in the Judge McDowell blaze.

A grand shooting match for a span of good work horses has been arranged to take place in this village of Christmas Day.

Mrs. Kelley, Milliner, is selling out.

December 11, 1880 Thos. Beach, Henry Kingman, Thos. Jones and Laubenheimer and Werling have been packing ice. That being secured is very clear and about 10 inches thick.

Fairbury Wards. Third Street and the Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad are the dividing lines.

No. 1 – S.E.

No. 2 – S.W.

No. 3 – N.W.

No. 4 – N.E.

December 18, 1880 Ad: If you want a fat time Christmas, buy your eatables at Perlee's.

Rogers Statuary splendid for Holiday presents, at New Drug Store.

Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher endorses "Buckeye Cookery" and "Manners That Win" as the best books for Holiday presents.

Odell's new check rower doing a good business.

John B. Smith, son of Tom, fighting again.

December 25, 1880 Odells sold between \$3 and \$4,000 of check rowers.

January 1, 1881 A good many lads of sixteen years and upwards were in town last Saturday, and seemed bent on doing their best to check a drought in this city. The saloons were swarming with them the whole day, and at night the sidewalks were too narrow for their navigation.

Christmas was held at Dr. Bartlett's.

Eggs are scarce – 22 cents and 25 cents a dozen.

The M.E. Church Christmas Exercises. They had a huge elephant drawing a handsomely decorated passenger car that came from behind a curtain. Santa was on top of the car holding the lines driving the elephant. Inside the car were fifteen little girls in white with blue sashes and gold cornets. On the breast of each was a gold letter spelling Merry Christmas. They sang carols and distributed gifts.

A competent girl wanted - \$3 a week.

January 8, 1881 Steve Murdock went calling New Year's.

January 15, 1881 Judge McDowell having stone hauled for house.

William Smith rape trial in Circuit Court. Jury disagreed.

Walton Bros. buy coal mine.

Harry Perlee convalescing from measles. (Works in Brother Charlie's store.)

Waltons bought Remington corner, Locust and Third, and will build.

January 22, 1881 Eggs are very scarce. The few that get to town are "gobbled up on the street by saloon men for Tom and Jerry's."

Keller bought building occupied by New York Store for \$2,500.

Romeo T. Perry went to Chicago to take a job in office of Cook County Sheriff.

The Straight's building burns, taking the Werling and Laubenheimer barn with it. The crippled fire machine was prompt but helpless.

January 29, 1881 A steam fire engine proposed.

Dr. Sam Barnes performed an operation for tumor. It can be seen at his office.

February 5, 1881 Two deaths of children from measles.

Thomas Beach started for Little Rock, Arkansas, Thursday morning. Before returning Mr. Beach will visit New Orleans via Galveston, Texas, and attend the Mardi Gras performances, and thence to Florida to look at the orange groves and taste of the luscious fruit grown there.

February 12, 1881 Beach and George have many orders for stone to be used in building in the coming season. A goodly number are from Forrest.

Child died of measles.

February 19, 1881 Judge McDowell will build on the old site.

Child died of diphtheria.

February 26, 1881 Mrs. Dr. Brewer has an offer to sing in the choir of Plymouth Church, Chicago, and went to see about it. She may accept. If so, the family will move to Chicago.

A new store – Moberly and Bailey.

Minstrel Show, Opera House.

March 5, 1881 Judge McDowell bought the Peter Henry residence and will remodel it. He paid \$450.

Small pox prevalent. Vaccination urged.

Dr. Brewer thinking of starting a creamery.

Thomas Beach returned last Saturday from a three week trip to Little Rock and Hot Springs, Arkansas. He reports very heavy and continuous rain in that country. Owing to the unfavorable condition of the weather, he did not continue the journey as at first contemplated.

Straight brought \$5,000 suit against Odells. The fire was caused by the ignition of a tub of asphaltum used for Japanning castings for the check rowers. Patton is Odells' attorney.

March 12, 1881 Addition built to Zane's house for a restaurant. Front room still used for millinery.

Second child of Thomas Gibb died in 10 days of laryngitis.

If the young men who go South on First Street on Sunday nights, and occasionally on other nights of the week, would dispense with their profanity and other rough talk, they will oblige the people living on that street. It is not necessary for young men to advertise in a loud voice that they are profane blackguards; the ugly fact is found out soon enough, anyway.

George Franzen went to Peoria Wednesday to take a position as compositor in the office of the Journal. George will stack as many types in a day as the swiftest of the "comps."

March 19, 1881 The Blade has new types.

Kingman's store has been painted a bright red with black trim.

On Wednesday Fred Gravinna, Ad Cooley and Al Bartlett started to the swamps north of Piper City to hunt ducks and geese. They sent boats, tents, and provisions by wagon. They went by rail. They expect to be gone a week or more. Good luck to them.

John Walton born to Wesley Walton.

Judge McDowell's house on North Third Street has been raised and placed on a stone foundation. The first story has been raised about twenty inches, which gives nine foot ceilings, and an addition is being built.

The firm of Franzen and Ramsey is dissolving and a receiver has been appointed. Patton is Fransen's attorney.

Sam Barnes operated on another tumor case.

March 26, 1881 Henry Kingman is building a new farm machinery building.

Drama, "The Soldier's Reward", for the benefit of the Fairbury Guards.

Hollenback and Clemens open a pop factory in the McDowell Block next to the bank.

The janitor of the M.E. church lays a complaint of the bad conduct of William and Harry, a couple of young men well known in this city, who, last Sunday night, befouled the floor of the church where they sat with a flood of tobacco juice, their whole attention being given to chewing the filthy weed and squirting the juice in puddles on the floor while the services were going on. A repetition of this act will get the full names of the offenders in print.

The duck hunters only got about forty ducks.

April 2, 1881 Judge McDowell's house is almost done.

Pasteboard pancakes at the Forrest Hotel, April 1.

Post office clerk called down for long conversations with customers.

April 9, 1881 One of William Fugate's cows died from a broken neck last week.

A lot of large sized, able bodied boys may be seen daily on the railroad west of the depot, weather permitting, playing marbles, when they should be in school.

George Scibird of Del Norte, Colo. is visiting the family of his parents in this city.

Dr. Hudgin has taken Dr. Stiles as partner.

James Stern has invented a washing machine. It is a series of corrugated rollers, revolving with a double crank motion on an ordinary washboard. He will manufacture.

The Presbyterians are to build a new church. T.A. Beach, Henry Kingman, T.D. George, Mr. Blaine and George Decker are the building committee.

Smith's Greenhouse advertisement for the first time.

Jake Thornton's Bakery, building and stock, for sale. Price, \$750.

April 18, 1881 Judge McDowell planted shade trees in front of his residence.

Mrs. Scibird is severely ill and not expected to live.

Work began on Judge McDowell's new residence on the corner of Third and Maple.

The Paducah road will use the Toledo, Peoria & Western depot.

Henry Kingman's Agricultural Implements has branch offices at Meadows, Chenoa, Cropsey, Strawn, Forrest, and Chatsworth.

April 23, 1881 The windows have been placed in the new school building. There is a new fence at Judge McDowell's.

Wilson's Restaurant opposite Walton's Mill.

Elliott and Bryant, a new dry goods store, under the Opera House.

The New York Store has vacated. They quit business. Keller takes space.

Mrs. Lydia A. Scibird, Johnny Scibird's wife, died. Card of thanks. She was bedfast for four and a half years with terrible suffering. Her husband and six children survive. The funeral was at the Presbyterian Church, and she was interred in the Fairbury Cemetery.

April 30, 1881 George Scibird has returned to Del Norte, Colorado. He is in the newspaper business.

Emilie Garvin and the Swedish Lady Quartette at the Opera House.

John Conerus, the cigar manufacturer. His brands: Wild Oats, Maud S., Wabash, St. Louis and Pacific.

Chris Keck sold out his barber business.

Straight's Tile Factory.

May 7, 1881 Coffee, 10 cents a pound.

Byron Phelps patented a check rower.

Plenty of fish in the Vermillion. A thirty pound sturgeon was caught in the Little Vermillion.

As a sanitary measure, the ditches through the town should be cleaned as soon as possible. Many of them are stopped up with refuse matter, which impedes the flow of water and causes it to become stagnant and foul.

Walton Bros. will begin work on their hotel building soon.

Judge McDowell will put up a couple of business houses adjoining Walton's

Whose business is it to look after the cows that are being pastured on the street and commons in town? They are usually staked near enough to the sidewalks so that they can break them up besides covering them with filth. If the town is to be made a cow pasture, then it is all right. If not, then it ought to be stopped.

Smokestack of old woolen mill wrecked.

May 14, 1881 J.E. Lewis has a brand new and very handsome carriage.

J.E. Lewis is making improvements in and about his residence place.
Beach and George built a lime kiln at their stone quarry this week, and will furnish all the lime the builders in this vicinity may need this year and the years to come.

A railing was put up on the north side of the elevated walk in front of the burnt district this week.
"Freeze to the railing" when the dark nights come, if you would not fall off.

May 11, 1881 A "stuffed club" has been found and is on exhibition at the Blade office. It is a canvas sack, six inches in diameter and twelve inches long. It is stuffed with excelsior and coarse salt, and tied to a stick two feet long. It is used to thump people on the streets after dark.

May 28, 1881 The ladies of the G.T. Club were out serenading.

Blaze at the Fair Grounds started by fire crackers.

June 18, 1881 A telephone salesman was in town. NO sales.

After several days' trial in County Court this week, the jury decided that Franklin Oliver was distracted and should have a conservator appointed.

Miss Ella Beach returned from Whitehall Thursday with a lady friend, Miss May Davis, of that city, who will visit here a few weeks.

On Friday of last week, Mrs. William Fugate attained her 50th year; an Uncle William perpetuated a very neat surprise for her benefit. He came to town and invited a large number of friends to attend a birthday party at his house and when they had all assembled there were about three dozen of them. Then Uncle "Billy" drew forth a silver cup and saucer, and proceeded to make a speech to his good wife, presenting her with the valuable ware. After this complete surprise, the guests proceeded to spread a sumptuous repast, which would have done credit to a king, and a jolly good time followed. All united in wishing Mrs. Fugate many happy returns of her natal day.

June 25, 1881 Judge McDowell contemplated erecting a business house on one of his lots in the burnt business district.

July 2, 1881 Professor Allison to lecture at the Opera House on "The Mound Builders of America, Their Civilization and Religion."

Fourth of July dance at Opera House.

Bartlett, Beach and Dominy sold about 40,000 bushels of corn to parties abroad, and have had the east elevator at work this week, shelling it.

A sheet and pillow case party was held at the residence of Thomas Beach. There were about three dozen persons present, and they had access of fun. The lawn was lighted with torches, tables set and ice cream, lemonade and cake served. It was one of the jolliest crowds that ever assembled at the Beach mansion.

Tommy DuBois and Steve Murdock have the exclusive right to sell refreshments at Brewer's Grove on the Fourth of July.

The new school house is finished. The contract price was \$12,296. Accommodated 400 scholars.

Fourth of July Plans: National salute, 6 A.M. Procession headed by Marshal, form at 10 A.M. at Livingston Square to go to Brewer's Grove. Drum Corps, G.A.R., Fire Department of Chatsworth, Cornet Band, and orators of the day in carriage, citizens in carriages, wagons, and on horseback. Program of speeches (some volunteer) music. In city, 4 P.M., marching of the Ancient and Honorable Order of Plug Uglies. Fireworks from roof of engine house opposite Post Office. Five magnificent balloons to be sent up in the evening.

July 9, 1881 Pop factory, forty cases a day.

Presbyterian services to be held at Opera House.

Garfield killed. (one short paragraph) Postmaster Virgin placed crepe draped crayon portrait in window.

Mrs. E.A. Scibird and Miss Ollie to Bloomington for Fourth.

July 16, 1881 Basket picnic and platform dance at Tom Smith's Bridge. Good music and refreshments.

Rufus Huntoon, the artist, canvassed five days in Belle Prairie and took fifteen orders for his portraits in crayon, Indian ink, and water colors. His portrait of General Garfield is one of the best likenesses that we have ever seen, and is made from a photo sent to him by the president.

The boiler at Kring's foundry was repaired this week, and a new furnace built.

Ground broken for new Presbyterian Church.

Several girls in Cornet Band. Professor Alf Jones, director.

Judge McDowell in his new house, though not completed.

July 23, 1881 Professor Allison's lecture: "The Assassin, Guiteau, and His Relations"

Army worm out extensively.

Dan Calmer's child, five weeks old, died of Cholera infant.

Myrtle Stafford to Indiana to visit relatives.

\$50 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person who entered my stable on the night of the third of July and clipped the mane from my horse. T.A. DuBois.
July 30, 1881 T.D. George laying the Presbyterian Church foundation.

Major McIntosh has a full drum corps in good training. Will receive orders for picnics, celebrations, excursions, and parties. Wages reasonable.

Barbers no close at 10 A.M. Sundays, and charge 15 cents a shave.

Joe McDowell before Squire Shepherd charged with carrying deadly weapons and flourishing the same.

August 6, 1881 Sidewalks are being built around the school house.

T.A. Beach built a large oats bin east of their grain office this week.

F. Filley returned from Nebraska Tuesday and brought along a fine Indian pony for the children to ride.

T.A. Beach and Co. will buy corn and oats at their office, corner of Fifth and Locust Streets, and will pay the highest prices. Their new advertisement.
Grading done around Judge McDowell's.

Elijah Filley, of Beatrice, Nebraska, visited in this city, Wednesday, this week.

Mrs. T.A. DuBois and daughter, Emma, returned from Wisconsin.

August 13, 1881 Strike at east coal shaft soon over. The men went back to work at \$1 a ton.

Chatsworth Wreck.

D. L. Murdock and sons, Stephen and Clarence, went to Chicago. Steve, an ex "imp" will remain several weeks at Bryant and Stratton's Commercial College.

Reverend Hempstead's poem, "The Comet". (half column.)

August 20, 1881 "Pink T" social at David Sharp's last Tuesday evening. Unique and successful affair. Lawn nicely illuminated and decorated, and hammocks swung among trees. The "T" part consisted in giving with each dish of cream purchased a letter T made of pink perforated cardboard.

Forbes Dramatic Company, Opera House, in "Black Diamonds."

Mrs. Joe H. Scibird of Pontiac visited the city this week.

August 27, 1881 J.E. Lewis building a new barn 16 x 30, two stories high.

Hamburger milk bread at Skinners. Fine cakes a specialty.

Dr. Bartlett presented his wife and daughter with a fine new phaeton, horse and harness this week. The outfit is A 1.

Teamsters of Fairbury will meet Monday night at Kingman's Hall to arrange prices for hauling. All are invited to be there.

Professor Allison's lecture Sunday evening at Opera House, "Have the Prayers Offered for President Garfield's Recovery Been of Any Benefit?"

Mr. and Mrs. John Kring had a surprise party on their 56th wedding anniversary.

September 3, 1881 Dr. Bartlett bought the lot of the old Vail Drug Store Building.

Query: Whether those youths and misses who frequent the fair ground at 11 o'clock at night have any parents?

Dr. Bartlett bought Havermal farm of 80 acres halfway between Forrest and Chatsworth at \$30 an acre.

Annable and Hudgin patented a new water valve for stock watering troughs.

September 10, 1881 J.E. Lewis bought 80 acres adjoining his farm near Chatsworth at \$2,525.

Beach and Dominy purchased 26 car loads of hard coal.

Lester Combination show at Opera House.

Old Soldier reunion at Bloomington.

Mr. George C.S. Lewis, of Mount Vernon, Ohio, visited the family of J.E. Lewis, his brother.

George H. Franzen of the Peoria Journal visited the old homestead in this city and took in the Fair Friday. George grows handsome in city life.

September 17, 1881 A farmer drove into J.E. Lewis. The buggy top was smashed and \$25 damage done.

Another meeting of teamsters.

Dave Murdock bought 40 good building lots on the north side of town of Octave Chanute, one of the original founders of Fairbury.

Girl born to Charley Perlees.

Mrs. J.E. Lewis visiting in Ohio.

September 24, 1881 Burglars at J.E. Lewis'.

Dan Calmer's blacksmith shop.

George Franzen home sick with chills.

Mrs. Thomas Beach and daughter, Ella, went to Cincinnati, Tuesday, to attend the Exposition and visit relatives. They will be absent a couple of weeks.

Death of Franklin Oliver

Last Monday night Franklin Oliver died in the boarding house of the Misses Leedom, at Chenoa, about the hour that the president breathed his last. He had been at Chenoa for some weeks and had been ill several days before his death. Last week he sent for some old acquaintances at Pontiac, saying that he was sick and that he should die. None of his large family was with him at his death, not being on friendly terms with them. A congestive chill, followed by an obstruction of the bladder, are said to be the cause of his death.

Franklin Oliver was the first settler in what is now Chatsworth Township. He came from New Jersey in 1832, and settled among the Indians with whom he always maintained friendly relations. When everybody else became frightened at the warlike reports of the Black Hawk campaign, and retreated to the Wabash settlements, Oliver remained upon his claim unmolested. He became possessed of large tracts of land and has been quite wealthy; but, of late years, through his eccentricities, a good share of his lands and wealth has slipped through his hands. Only a short time since a conservator was appointed for him, but he had taken his case to the higher court on appeal, and was determined to fight it out to the end. It is said that since the effort to put his affairs in the hands of a conservator, he has conveyed most of his remaining property to some of his nieces.

At his death he was about 95 years of age and until a few weeks of his death, was quite active and traveled alone wherever he wished to go. His family relations have been broken and very unpleasant for years, and this may account for his dying among strangers.

October 1, 1881 Memorial services for Garfield.

October 8, 1881 Vaughan's orchestra furnished the music for the dance at the Opera House.

Wild pigeons are plentiful. Sportsmen are out.

"Irish Lemons" (potatoes) are scarce.

Lynching in Bloomington. Prisoner shot jailer. Mob of 5000 stormed jail. Other prisoners seized murderer and prevented his escape. Sheriff risked life to cut down the body.

J.E. Lewis and wife attended the Fair at St. Louis.

Thomas Beach and family returned from a visit to Cincinnati Exposition and visit with friends.

An article by W.T. Stackpole.

October 15, 1881 Shooting gallery very popular.

D. Murdock buys interest in silver mine.

October 22, 1881 It is said that Dr. Ostrander will locate in this city for the practice of medicine in the spring.

(personal column) Elijah Filley of Nebraska was in the city this week.

Brewster-Bowen Combination at the Opera House, a ventriloquist humorist.

October 29, 1881 Grand Ball Thanksgiving night at the Opera House.

Dr. Fraley taken by apoplectic fit at his office.

George Franzen purchased De Wolf's Drug Store.

November 5, 1881 L.B. Dominy, Esq. has purchased a nice pony for his daughters.

The young ladies of the Aesthetic Society gathered at the residence of T.A. Beach on Halloween to consult the goblins of All Saint's Day in regard to future destiny, and were surprised by a number of young gents, who dropped in late in the evening, forming a party that was much enjoyed by all.

T.A. Beach and family went to Chicago Thursday.

J.S. Scibird is recovering, slowly, from the effects of his late illness, and will probably be on duty again, soon.

Dr. Bartlett was in Chicago last week, and received assurance from his physician that he could be permanently cured.

November 12, 1881 Dr. Ostrander is improving his residence property on Oak Street preparatory to moving. He has raised it and built an addition.

Slayton Jubilee Singers at Opera House.

Furniture bought for Presbyterian Church.

Elmer McDowell and John Deitiker had a little racket last Monday, and Elmer paid \$3 and costs for his share of the fun.

November 19, 1881 T.A. Beach put in a new drain from the Opera House Building to the north ditch this week.

Sunday hunters a nuisance.

Dr. Ostrander will build a barn 16 x 24, and 16 feet high at his residence on Oak Street.

The National Bank is moving and putting up its vault in the new location opposite the Post Office.

Henry Weber, the Celebrated Comedian, in "Nip and Tuck" at the Opera House.

November 26, 1881 Charles L. Perlee has bought the old Kring property on North Fifth Street and will improve it.

J.S. Scibird is much worse and is confined to his house.

Duprez and Benedict's Minstrels at the Opera House.

December 3, 1881 Taylor and Weaver moved to Walton Building opposite the Post Office.

December 16, 1881 Beach and Dominy have erected a commodious house on the open space in front of Union Block in which to store their stock of hard coal.

Obituary of John S. Scibird

Died at residence in Fairbury, Tuesday, December 6, 1881, of Bright's disease of the kidneys, aged 51 years.

He was born in Fountain County, Indiana, May 6, 1830, and was reared in eastern Indiana. December 6, 1850, he married Lydia A. Underwood at Eaton, Ohio. They had eight children, six living. In 1856 he moved his family to Illinois and lived in Bloomington for 20 years. He was prominent in political and newspaper circles. In 1867 he owned the Pantograph for one year and the Leader for five years. He was Postmaster for four years during Grant's first administration. In 1873 he belonged to the city council. He was a leader in the Temperance movement. He lived in Fairbury five years.

The funeral services will be held under the auspices of the Odd Fellows at the M.E. Church. Reverends Merit, Wilson, and Markle will officiate. The Chatsworth Cornet Band will escort the cortege. The business houses will be closed.

Independent Blade

E. A. Scibird and Company

December 17, 1881 Herbert Constellation at the Opera House.

Dr. John Beach of Madison County, Ohio, was the guest of Dr. Bartlett several days this week. He returned home Wednesday.

Knights of Pythias dance December 23 at Opera House.

December 24, 1881 New Year's calling cards at the Blade office.

Scibird Memoriam, I.O.O.F.

December 21, 1881 Leslie Quartette, Opera House.

Fairbury Shoe Store three doors from the Post Office.

Scibird resolutions of respect, I.O.O.F.

F. Filley has been spending the holidays with his family in this city.

The Misses Scibird moved to Bloomington this week where they will make their future home.